

Requirements for Teaching American Sign Language

Administrators Roundtable Meeting
May 12, 2006

Purpose of the Presentation is to review:

- The certification requirements for Teachers of ASL at the elementary, middle school, and secondary levels
 - Full time instruction
 - Up to half time instruction
- The highly qualified teacher requirements for teachers
 - providing direct instruction for students in **world language programs** at the elementary, middle school, or secondary level
 - providing direct instruction to student in **special education** programs at the elementary, middle school, and/or secondary levels

■ **Certification Options**

- ❑ Elementary
- ❑ Middle School
- ❑ Secondary

■ **HQT Options**

- ❑ Elementary
- ❑ Middle School
- ❑ Secondary

■ ***Timeline: June 2006***

Certification Options

- Teacher of American Sign Language
(Preschool through Grade 12)
- Teacher of Elementary (K-5)
- Teacher of Elementary with Specialization (6-8)
- Teacher of Elementary (K-8)

Teacher of ASL

Preschool through Grade 12

30 hour coherent sequence

Second Language Acquisition

Linguistic Competency

**Elementary Teacher
K-5**

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graph TD; A[Elementary Teacher K-5] --- B[Possess Linguistic Competency]; A --- C[Three Semester Hours Second Language Acquisition Theory];
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Possess Linguistic Competency

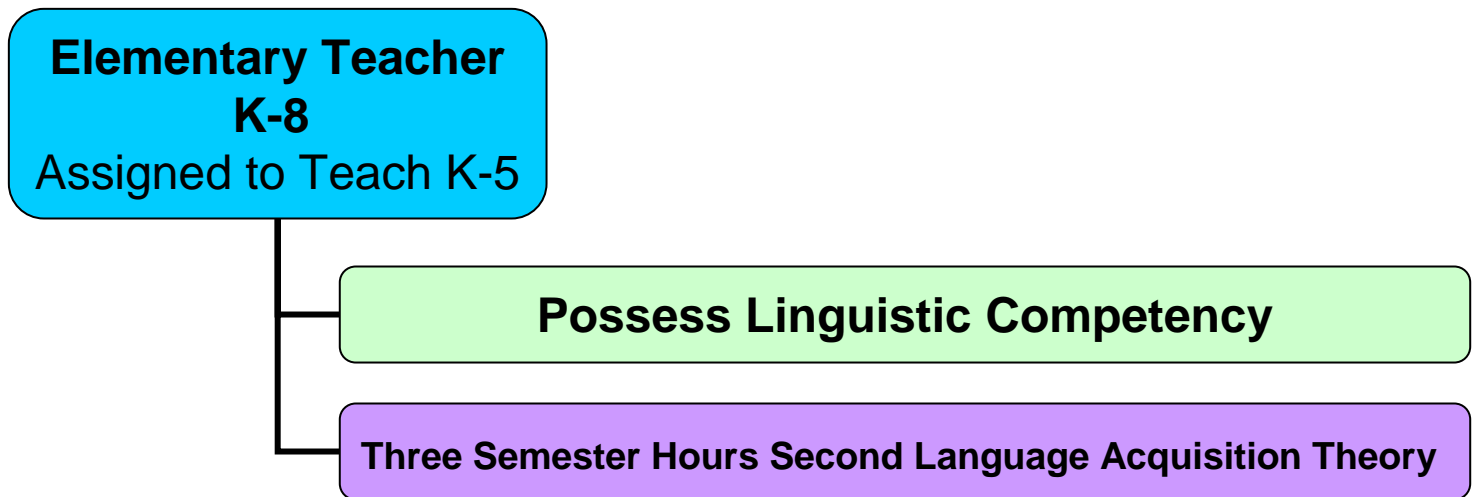
Three Semester Hours Second Language Acquisition Theory

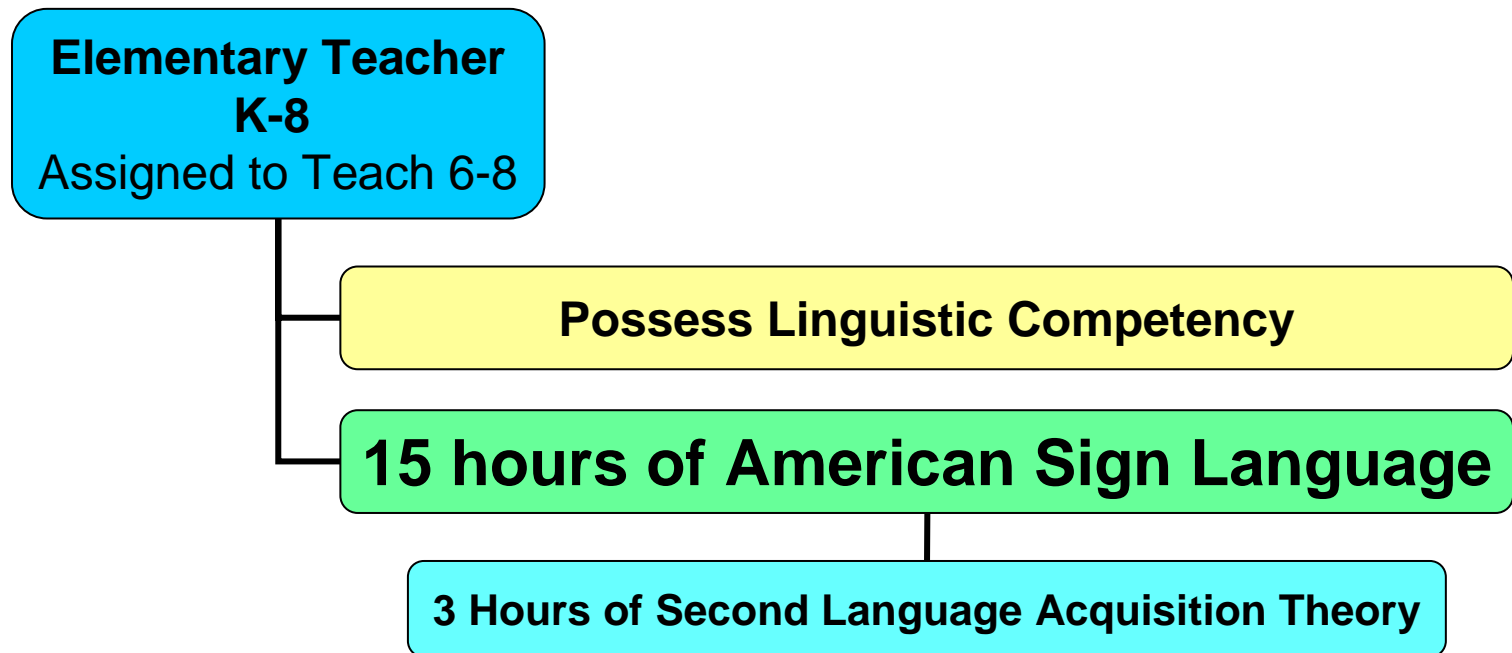
**Elementary Teacher with Subject Matter Specialization
(Grades 6-8)**

Possess Linguistic Competency

15 hours of American Sign Language

3 Hours of Second Language Acquisition Theory





Teacher of ASL: Proficiency Assessment Options

Include but are not limited to:

- ASLTA certificate
- RID certificate
- NAD assessment
- EIPA score of 3 or greater

Clarification

- Memo May 3, 2006 from the Office of Licensing
- Clarifies that N-8 certified teachers are grandfathered to teach world languages *half-time or less* in grades N-8 without meeting further requirements (N.J.A.C. 6A:9-9.1(a) 5).

HQT Requirements

Elementary Level

- ❑ **Hold bachelors degree;**
- ❑ **Is fully licensed/certified;**
- ❑ **Proof of content expertise in ASL by one of the following:**
 - ❖ **Passing state test**
 - OR**
 - ❖ **Fulfills NJ House Standard**
(Veteran Teachers, Possible Phase out this year)

HQT Requirements

Middle and Secondary Instructional Levels

- Hold bachelors degree;
- Is fully licensed/certified at instructional level;
- Proof of content expertise in ASL by one of the following:
 - ❖ Passes state test
OR
 - ❖ Completes 30 hours in ASL
OR
 - ❖ Completes academic major or coursework equivalent to a major
OR
 - ❖ Graduate degree
OR
 - ❖ NJ House Standard
(Veteran Teachers, Possible Phase out this year)

HOUSE Standard

Highly Objective Uniform State Evaluation

Note: Possible Phase out this year

1. Content area College Coursework

- Must have minimum of 4 points in this category
- 2 points on matrix given per course
- Must be 3 credit courses

2. Content Area Professional Activities

- (limit to 6 points on matrix permitted)

3. Content Area Teaching Activities

- 1 point per year within last 4 years

4. Successful Content Area Teaching

- (8-15 years) = 2 points
- (16 + years) = 3 points

Example #1 of HQT of ASL(Elementary Level)
Students instructional level is elementary
Instructional program: 4th grade class

- **BA in Elementary Education**
- **K-5 Elementary Certification**
- **Passed Praxis Exam(Elementary Education: Content Knowledge)**
- **Passed Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI) with Advanced Level**

Example #2 of HQT at Elementary Level (Veteran Teacher)

**Students instructional level-elementary
Instructional Program in 5th grade class**

- **MA in Elementary Education/Deaf Education**
- **Elementary (K-8), Teacher of the Deaf**
- **Meets House Standards (Possible phase out this year)**
 - (5 courses in ASL in teacher program)

Example #3 of Highly Qualified Teacher of ASL at the Middle School Level

Students instructional level: 7th grade

Students program: departmental instruction in middle school

- **BA in elementary education**
- **Teacher Certification K-8**
- **Associates degree from Interpreter Training Program**
- **Passed SCPI (Proficiency Assessment)**
- **Meets 10 points on the House Standard (Possible phase out this year)**
 - **5 college courses in ASL from interpreting program (10 points)**

Example #4 of Highly Qualified Teacher of ASL at the Middle School Level (Veteran Teacher)

Students instructional level is 8th grade

Students in departmental program in junior high school

- **BA in Elementary Education**
- **Teacher Certification Elementary K-8**
- **Passed SCPI at Advanced Level**
- **Meets 10 points on the House Standard (Possible phase out this year)**
 - **3 college courses in ASL (6 points)**
 - **Wrote ASL curriculum (1 Points)**
 - **Presented at ASLTA (American Sign Language Teacher Association) (1 point)**
 - **Taught ASL classes for 8 years (2 points)**

Example #5 Highly Qualified Teacher of ASL at the Secondary Level (Veteran Teacher)

Students instructional level: 9th grade

Students program: departmental 9th grade in high school

- **BA in Language Arts/Minor in Deaf Education**
- **Teacher Certification K-12 Language Arts; Teacher of the Deaf**
- **Passed SCPI at Advanced Level**
- **Meets 10 points on the House Standard (Possible phase out this year)**
 - **4 college courses in ASL (8 points)**
 - **Teaching ASL in high school as elective for 8 years (2 Points)**

Example # 6 of Highly Qualified Teacher of ASL at the Secondary Level

Students instructional level: junior

Students instructional program: 11th grade departmental

- **MA in Deaf Education; Content Major in Mathematics**
- **Teacher of Deaf; Teacher of Mathematics K-12**
- **Passed SCPI at Advanced Level**
- **Meets 10 points on the House Standard (Possible phase out this year)**
 - **4 college courses in ASL (8 points)**
 - **Teaching ASL in high school as elective for 8 years (2 Points)**

Options for Teachers of the Deaf

**May teach ASL to students with disabilities
in a self- contained or resource room setting when**

- They meet the HQT requirements according to the instructional level required by the student's IEP
 - Elementary
 - Middle
 - Secondary

**Example #7 Highly Qualified Teacher of ASL
Students Elementary Level who are *classified*
Students in Self Contained Special Education Program**

- **BA in Deaf Education**
- **Teacher of the Deaf Certification (preschool through Grade 12)**
- **Passed SCPI at Advanced Level**

Example #8 HQT of ASL

Students are Classified

Students program is departmental special education 11-12

Instructional Level is grade 9

- **MA in Deaf Studies/BA in Special Education**
- **Teacher of the Deaf Certification**
- **Teacher of the Handicapped Certification**
- **30 hours of ASL**

Example #1 of Teacher who is not Highly Qualified for Instruction in Regular Education Program

- **BA in Deaf Education**
- **Certification to Teach Students who are deaf/hard of hearing preschool-12**
- **Passed SCPI with advanced score**
- **Note: No certifications for regular education**

Example #2

Individual who is *not* Highly Qualified to Teach ASL in a Regular Education Program or Special Education Program

- **BA in Interpreting**
- **NJ Standard Certification in Educational Interpreting**
- **Passed Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment**
- **Note: No Instructional certifications**

Educational Interpreters

- Not qualified to teach ASL
- Educational services endorsement vs. instructional endorsement

Teacher of the Deaf may teach ASL to students in regular education programs *if:*

1. Hold *dual certification* in the *appropriate grade level* according to the instructional content to be taught *and* they meet the HQT requirements

Or

2. Hold *dual certification* as a *Teacher of American Sign Language* for the instructional level of the students.